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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/786,289	03/01/2001	Heribert Wutte	PH0-99.528	8148

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

LAO, TIM P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2655

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/786,289	WUTTE, HERIBERT	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tim Lao	2655	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 May 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-8,10 and 12-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,7,8 and 14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 May 2004 is/are: a) ☒ ~~accepted~~ or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

*The proposed drawing correction filed 5/3/04 is approved.
New drawings are required.*

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 3, 5, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted structural cooperative relationships are: For claim 3, a speech recognition device as claimed in claim 2. For claims 5 and 6, a speech recognition device as claimed in claim 4. However, claims 2 and 4 are canceled claims.

3. Claims 10, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: For claim 10, a speech recognition method as claimed in claim 9. For claims 12 and 13, a speech recognition method as claimed in claim 11. However, claims 9 and 11 are canceled claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitchell et al. (U.S. Patent 5,799,273, hereinafter Mitchell) in view of Junqua (U.S. Patent 5,806,030, hereinafter Junqua).

Claim(s)

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Mitchell shows:

A speech recognition device (Fig.2) comprising:

a processor (Fig.2: 10) configured to:

(1) receive voice information (e.g., audio signal) uttered by a speaker; (col.6, ll.9-10)

(2) store a first speech coefficient indicator (e.g., parameters of the user model 21, language model 22, and dictionary 23); (col.5, ll.44-56)

(3) determine text information (e.g., text component) that corresponds to the received voice information by evaluating the voice information and the speech coefficient indicator; (col.5, ll.56-62)

(4) importing (e.g., downloading from a floppy disc) a second speech coefficient indicator (e.g., new words and updated model parameters); (col.12, ll.15-67; col.15, ll.4-57; col.16, ll.5-8)

Mitchell does not show:

determining which of the two speech coefficient indicators is further trained.

Junqua teaches:

	<p>determining one of the two speech coefficient indicators (e.g., the insufficiently or poorly trained model) is further trained (e.g., retrained). (col.3, ll.30-45)</p> <p>It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Mitchell's method of importing speech coefficient indicator to include the retraining of speech coefficient indicators in order to increase a speech model's accuracy. (Junqua: col.8, ll.44-47)</p>
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Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1, 7, 8, and 14 are allowable.	
Claim(s) 1	<p><u>The prior arts fail to show:</u></p> <p>A speech recognition device comprising:</p> <p>receiving means for receiving voice information uttered by a speaker;</p> <p>speech coefficient storage means for storing a speech coefficient indicator;</p> <p>speech recognition means arranged for determining text information which corresponds to the received voice information by means of an evaluation of the voice information and of the speech coefficient indicator; and</p> <p>transfer means to enable importing a speech coefficient indicator and storing the imported speech coefficient indicator in the speech coefficient storage means;</p> <p>a training means for training the stored speech coefficient indicator by evaluating at least text information and in that the transfer means enable to export the speech coefficient indicator stored in the speech coefficient storage means and for generating a training indicator which denotes the extent of adjustment of the speech coefficient indicator stored in the speech coefficient storage means.</p>

Claim(s) 7	Allowable based on dependency.
Claim(s) 8	<p><u>The prior arts fail to show:</u></p> <p>A speech recognition method for recognizing text information which corresponds to voice information, the method comprising the following steps:</p> <p>receiving voice information;</p> <p>evaluating the received voice information and stored speech coefficient indicator and delivering recognized text information; and</p> <p>wherein a speech coefficient indicator is imported, stored, and trained by an evaluation of at least one piece of text information and in that the stored speech coefficient indicator is exported, and wherein a training indicator is generated which denotes the extent of the adjustment of the stored speech coefficient indicator.</p>
Claim(s) 14	Allowable based on dependency.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent Documents:

[A] 5,684,924	11/1997	Stanley et al.
[B] 6,035,270	03/2000	Hollier et al.
[C] 5,963,903	10/1999	Hon et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tim Lao whose telephone number is 703-305-8955.


The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on 703-305-4827. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Tim Lao
Examiner
Art Unit 2655

TL
07/22/04



W. R. YOUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER